

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 263

By Cobb J

A RESOLUTION to designate Tuesday, May 15, 2007, and every Tuesday of the week in which May 15 falls thereafter, as "State Trooper Recognition Day on the Hill."

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their own concerns to ensure our collective freedom and personal safety, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals who daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly enacted legislation in 1929, creating the Tennessee Highway Patrol, and Governor Henry Horton proclaimed to the first State Troopers to "go not as lords, but as servants of the people"; the first line of the "LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS" states "...my fundamental duty is to serve humankind"; and

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Tennessee Highway Patrol are responsible for patrolling the State's roads and highways and enforcing traffic and criminal laws; they investigate traffic crashes, reconstruct serious crashes, and prosecute drivers who contribute to serious injury and fatal crashes; and

WHEREAS, State Troopers assist local law enforcement agencies and communities during disasters; they search for lost persons, escapees, and wanted felons; they assist stranded motorists and other citizens who need help; and they work in cooperation with local, other state, and federal law enforcement agencies in investigations and bringing wanted criminals to justice; and

WHEREAS, State Troopers are very active in criminal interdiction on our roads and highways, looking beyond the traffic citation and seizing dangerous narcotics, wanted persons, and persons who choose to inflict harm and pain upon our citizens; and

WHEREAS, our State Troopers are active members of their respective communities all across Tennessee; Troopers are active in their churches, parent/teacher organizations, and civic clubs, helping children and adults who are in need or less fortunate than others, and they also coach Little League sports teams; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of our State Troopers serve as Reservists and Guardsmen, and they have bravely served this great Nation in conflicts and wars and in our current war against terrorism; and

WHEREAS, as we observe "State Trooper Recognition Day on the Hill," it is important to remember the many hazards these officers encounter, and the many sacrifices they make as they perform their duties with "Professionalism, Integrity, and Pride"; and

WHEREAS, sadly, some of these courageous Troopers make the ultimate sacrifice and give their lives in the line of duty while protecting and serving their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that those State Troopers who have dedicated their lives to the service of humanity through law enforcement and those officers who have given their lives in this noble cause be recognized and remembered for the accomplishment of their high purposes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate Tuesday, May 15, 2007, and every Tuesday of the week in which May 15 falls thereafter, as "State Trooper Recognition Day on the Hill," in honor of the brave and valiant service rendered by the many exemplary Troopers of the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the Tennessee Highway Patrol, with this final clause omitted from such copies.